

REMARKS

The examiner is thanked for the Official Action mailed January 13, 2004. This amendment and request for reconsideration is intended to be fully responsive to the Official Action.

In the Official Action, the Examiner indicated that the status of claims 34-36, 43-44, 49-51, 55 and 57-58 was incorrectly listed as “original” rather than “withdrawn”. The Examiner also indicated that the Applicant did not positively indicate that new claims 60-67 were readable on the elected species.

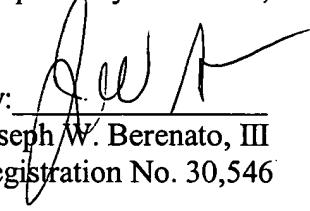
With regard to the status of claims 34-36, 43-44, 49-51, 55 and 57-58, in this amendment, the status of these claims has been changed to “withdrawn” as suggested by the Examiner.

With regard to the species of the new claims, new claims 60-67 are all ultimately dependent on independent claim 1, and are readable on elected Group 1, as defined by Figure 1-15. Claims 60-67 all cite “said channel” as defined in line 7 of claim 1. The channel is best shown in Figure 1 as reference number 28. The limitations described in claims 60-67 are all clearly shown in Figure 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the above comments and amendments resolve all outstanding issues and place the application in condition for allowance. Should the examiner believe that additional discussion is required, the examiner is invited to contact

the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below. It is believed that no additional charge is appropriate, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees to deposit account no. 50-0548.

Respectfully submitted,

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